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(54) Treated Wipes

(57) The invention comprises a tissue impregnated with an essence or aromatic perfume or medicament containing not more than 30% by weight of added ingredient stored in a sealed container with dispenser before use to prevent evaporation of the impregnant.

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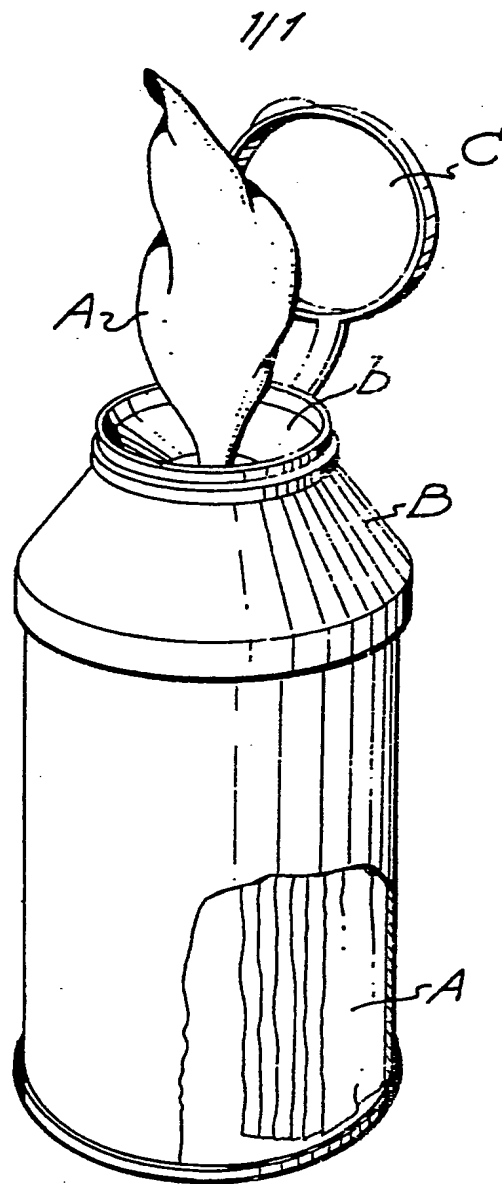


FIG. 1

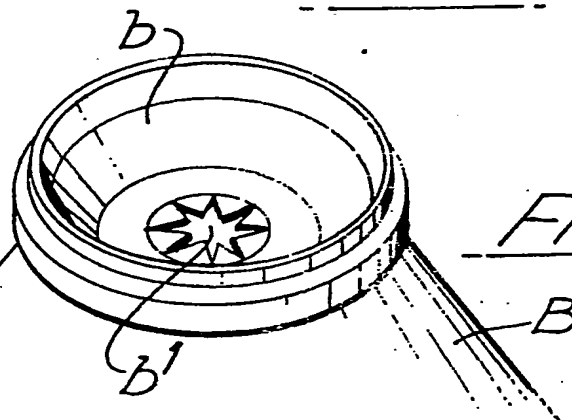


FIG. 2

SPECIFICATION

Improvements in treated wipes

5 This invention relates to improvements in the manufacture of impregnated tissues, as wipes dispensed from a container or sachet or blister pack for medical, cosmetic, toiletry, domestic, industrial or other use.

10 An impregnated tissue for dispensing from a sealed container for medical domestic and other uses comprising an encapsulated tissue of wipe impregnated with an essence or aromatic perfume or medicament containing not more than 30% by weight of liquid solid or gaseous ingredient stored in the container with dispenser before use to prevent evaporation of the impregnant.

An example of an impregnant substance is one or more of Eucalyptus, Camphor and Menthol, with such other compatible selected components as may be considered beneficial to the process.

The invention will be described with reference to the accompanying drawings showing one form of dispenser for carrying out the method.

25 Fig 1 is a perspective view of an example of a dispenser,

Fig 2 is a perspective of a dispensing orifice contained within the dispensing cap.

In carrying out the invention the wipe or wipes 30 is/are impregnated with an active ingredient, so formulated that its designed properties e.g. vapour/aromas etc, are transmitted to the wipe. Such introduction may be carried out during, or prior to manufacture of the wipe material (e.g. micro-encapsulation), or before or after the wipe is introduced into a dispenser B. In the cases where the introduction of the ingredient is not part of the process of manufacture of the wipe material, a treatment process best suited to combine with the wipe 40 may be carried out, e.g., which may comprise heat and/or a physical agitation, as may be required or beneficial to such combination, as a result of the ingredient being of liquid, solid or gaseous nature.

A separator may be introduced, such element 45 being positioned to initially segregate the wipe material from the active ingredient, means being provided that the separator permits the passage of the necessary elements of the ingredient e.g., natural vapour transmission, to pass around or through the separator element as may be desirable, such element 50 may also be introduced before or after the wipe material is introduced into the dispenser.

It is recognised that the so called separator may form a partition or be in the form of an envelope to 55 contain the ingredient or may be of a form having an apertured or porous structure to form a carrier for the ingredient.

The invention is relevant to so called "dry" wipes i.e., the mass of the wipe material shall be associated 60 with an active ingredient whose mass will not exceed, in respect of liquid solid or gaseous content, 30% by weight of the mass of wipe material.

The wipe A comprises an element of three dimensions where one dimension is of a very low order of 65 value relative to the other two. The invention may be

practiced in relation to a single wipe or a multiplicity of wipes, in which latter case the wipes may be separate elements interleaved or interfolded or perforatedly attached to provide continuous availability 70 for their usage.

The wipes are packed in a dispenser B of any size, shape or dimension, of flexible, semi-rigid, or rigid, substantially gas tight construction, with a lid or cover C. In the case of a single wipe package, to be 75 conveniently accessible for use, in the case of a multiplicity of wipes in a containing package, having dispensing means so designed that an initial sealing means (from the so called 'gas tight' condition) being broken and the first wipe being made accessible, 80 a dispensing means of pre-determined geometrical shape and size of rigid or flexible form as shown in the drawings, allows the wipe to be restrictedly drawn through such a dispenser and will allow the required wipe to be freed for use leaving an exposed 85 minor portion of the succeeding wipe which may be grasped when required as a function of the interleaving or severance of the perforation line as may be applicable.

Such dispenser in a practical example may if 90 desirable be formed with a chamber *b* of sufficient size for accessibility and to contain the exposed graspable portion of the next available wipe and a star shape orifice *b'* or the orifice may be cruciform, or circular orifice or other shape as may be most 95 suited to the nature, bulk and/or dimensions of the wipe material to be passed through.

Further in the case of a wipe combined with a micro-encapsulated ingredient such passage through the dispenser may assist in bursting at least 100 a proportion of the micro-capsules to the beneficial immediacy of use of the wipe.

Having removed the wipe required for use all the remaining wipe or wipes within the dispenser are preserved for further use by the cap C creating a 105 reasonable seal around the minor exposed portion of the next available wipe in the chamber *b* and/or alternatively, preservation or better preservation may be achieved by the use of a lid or cover C, hingedly attached for example, or by a flexible strap to 110 the main body of the dispenser, which in practice may be moulded from a plastics material, without prejudice to other materials which may be deemed suitable.

CLAIMS

115 1. An absorbent impregnated tissue for dispensing from a sealed container for medical domestic and other uses comprising an encapsulated tissue or wipe impregnated with an essence or aromatic perfume or medicament containing not more than 30% 120 by weight of added ingredient stored in the container with dispenser before use to prevent evaporation of the impregnant.

2. An absorbent impregnated tissue as in claim 1, in which the tissue is impregnated with eucalyptus, 125 camphor and/or methol.

3. An encapsulated tissue or wipe as in claim 1 or 2 which is stored in a sealed container before use to prevent the loss (e.g. by evaporation of the active ingredient).

130 4. A method of manufacturing an encapsulated

tissue or wipe as in claims 1 or 2 comprising transmitting the properties of the active ingredient to the tissue or wipe during or prior to manufacture thereof.

5 5. A method of manufacturing an encapsulated tissue or wipe as in claim 1 or 2 comprising transmitting the properties of the active ingredient to the tissue or wipe before or after the tissue or wipe is introduced into a dispenser.

10 6. A method of manufacturing an encapsulated tissue or wipe as in claim 5 comprising treatment to combine the active ingredient with the tissue or wipe.

15 7. A method of manufacturing an encapsulated tissue or wipe as in claim 5 or 6 comprising a heat treatment or treatment by physical agitation to combine the active ingredient with the tissue or wipe.

20 8. A method of manufacturing an encapsulated tissue or wipe as in claim 4 or 5 comprising introducing a separator to initially segregate the wipe material from the active ingredient but permit the passage of the necessary elements of the ingredient to the wipe material.

25 9. A method of manufacturing an encapsulated tissue or wipe as in claim 8 in which the separator comprises a partition, a permeable partition or envelope or a permeable dispenser means.

30 10. A container with dispenser for storing a wipe when produced by the method of claim 4 having a substantially gas tight chamber closed by a lid or cover to prevent the evaporating of the impregnant.

11. A method for the manufacture of absorbent impregnated tissues or wipes substantially hereinbefore described.

35 12. An impregnated tissue or wipe when produced substantially as described with reference to the accompanying drawings.

13. A dispenser for tissues or wipes substantially with reference to the accompanying drawings.